



Bureau of Land Management 2815 H Road • Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

BLM GRAND JUNCTION NEWS

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BLM accepting public comment on land transfer to Colorado Mesa University

GRAND JUNCTION -- The Bureau of Land Management is accepting public comment on a decision to transfer 80 acres of public land to Colorado Mesa University for construction and operation of a Peace Officer Standards and Training Academy and Mesa County Regional Public Safety Training Facility.

The proposed site is approximately one mile east of the intersection of U.S. Highways 50 and 141. A map and additional information are available at <http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gjfo.html>.

Transfer to the University would be via the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and could take place as early as this fall. This act authorizes the sale or lease of public lands for recreational or public purposes to state and local governments and to qualified nonprofit organizations.

“After a thorough review of this proposal that has included public review and comment, we have determined that this transfer is in the public’s interest,” said BLM Grand Junction Field Manager Catherine Robertson. “The land has not been identified for other public purposes, and the training academy will help meet a critical need in the community.”

This spring the University held a public open house on the proposal and BLM accepted comments on the Environmental Assessment analyzing the proposal. This summer, BLM signed the decision classifying the lands as suitable for conveyance under the R&PP Act and authorizing the transfer. Under this Act, BLM provides a 45-day public opportunity to comment on the decision.

Interested parties may submit comments involving the suitability of the land for use as a training academy. Comments on the classification are restricted to whether the land is physically suitable for such use, whether the use will maximize the future use or uses of the land, whether the use is consistent with local planning and zoning, or if the use is consistent with state and federal programs.

Public comments should be sent in writing to Robin Lacy, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506. Comments need to be received by Oct. 11, 2011. For more information call (970) 244-3000.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.